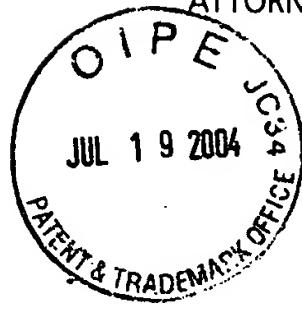




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July 19, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 1634

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/517,466; Filed: March 2, 2000
For: **Compositions and Methods for Use In Recombinational Cloning of Nucleic Acids**
Inventor: HARTLEY *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4680003

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. PTO Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/17);
2. PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$420.00 to cover a two month extension of time filing fee;
3. Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1);
4. Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
5. One (1) return postcard.

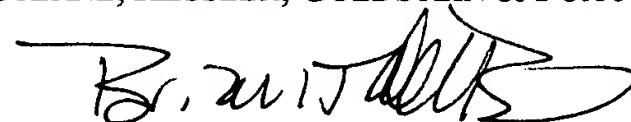
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
July 19, 2004
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Brian J. Del Buono
Attorney for Applicant
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BJD/JKM:bac
Enclosures

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